

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BERN 04344 201626Z

47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 ARA-10 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01

FEAE-00 EB-07 /090 W

----- 052310

R 201443Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1542

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

UNCLAS BERN 4344

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, SZ

SUBJECT: LOCAL PRESS REPORTS AND COMMENTS - PREPCON II

1. WHAT FOLLOWS ARE INFORMAL TRANSLATIONS OF HIGHLIGHTS
FROM THE SWISS PRESS OF OCTOBER 17 ON PREPCON II.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BERN 04344 201626Z

2.A. TRIBUNE DE GENEVA ON OCTOBER 17 SAID THAT PREPCON

IT WAS CLEARLY A SUCCESS FOR FRENCH DIPLOMACY. THE ATMOSPHERE WAS BETTER, EVEN IF DIFFERENCES REMAIN. VERY IMPORTANT DISAGREEMENTS ON THE PRICE OF PETROLEUM, ON PRIMARY PRODUCTS AND ON THE JURISDICTIONS OF THE COMMISSIONS. IT WAS A MIRACLE THAT THEY COULD BE PAPERED OVER.

B. PLANS FOR THE ECONOMIC SUMMIT MEETING DID NOTHING TO REASSURE THE THIRD WOULD PARTNERS IN THE DIALOGUE. IT MADE THEM FEEL ISOLATED ONCE MORE.

3. IN AN OCTOBER 17 EDITORIAL, AGENCE ECONOMIQUE ET FINANCIERE ASKS WHETHER THIS FIRST STEP IS NOT A BLUNDER. THE COMPROMISE REACHED SEEMS SO MODEST THAT IT MAY FALL APART AT THE FIRST TEST IF THE POLITICAL WILL TO SUCCEED, WHATEVER THE COST, DOES NOT EXIST. SETTLEMENT OF THE BASIC DISAGREEMENT ON OBJECTIVES WAS SIMPLY PUT OFF TO THE MINISTERIAL. ONE COULD SAY THAT THE DIALOGUE HAD ACHIEVED ITS OBJECTIVE IF THE TWO LISTS OF SUBJECTS TO BE DISCUSSED ARE, PERHAPS AFTER SEVERAL YEARS, FUSED INTO ONE.

BUT THE DIALOGUE, WITHOUT WHICH A CONFRONTATION IS INEVITABLE, HAS BEGUN. BUT ONE MUST NOT BE OVER-OPTIMISTIC. IN ADDITION TO GOOD WILL THERE MUST BE CONCRETE SOLUTIONS. ONE OF THE ESSENTIAL CONDITIONS IS THAT EACH PARTICIPANT HAVE SOMETHING TO TRADE FOR CONCESSIONS. IF THE LDC'S WOULD ADMIT THAT NOT ALL THEIR PROBLEMS ARE THE FAULT OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES THIS WOULD HELP, PARTICULARLY WITH PUBLIC OPINION.

4. AN EDITORIAL IN THE NEUE ZURCHER ZEITUNG (NZZ) ON OCTOBER 17, 1975 CONTAINED MANY OF THE SAME THEMES. NZZ SAID THAT "SUCCESSFUL" NORMALLY MEANS THAT THE PARTIES HAVE AGREED ON A COMMON TEXT. WHILE THIS IS TRUE OF THIS LATEST CONFERENCE, IT IS EQUALLY TRUE THAT ALL THE DIFFICULT PROBLEMS HAVE SIMPLY BEEN PUT OFF. MORE WAS PROBABLY NOT TO HAVE BEEN EXPECTED. THERE IS NO LONGER ANY QUESTION OF SPEAKING OF AN ENERGY CONFERENCE WHICH THE MAJORITY OF WESTERN STATES WOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE HAD; THE TITLE OF THE CONFERENCE MAKES THIS CLEAR; UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BERN 04344 201626Z

CONFERENCE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION.

- SO NOW WE'RE BACK TO THE SAME POINT AS IN THE UNITED NATIONS. ONLY WITH THE MEMBERSHIP A BIT SMALLER, WHICH IS A CERTAIN KIND OF POSITIVE ACHIEVEMENT.

- BOTH OIL PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS WANTED GUARANTEES THAT IN ANY NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE THEIR INTERESTS WOULD

BE DISCUSSED, AND BOTH WANTED TO BE ASSURED OF THIS IN AN AGENDA. HOWEVER, THE INDUSTRIALIZED STATES DID NOT WANT TO PERMIT THIS. SO WE COME TO THE COMPROMISE THAT IN THE FINAL DECLARATION PERMITS TWO "SHOPPING LISTS" TO BE PRESENTED, IN WHICH ALL THE WISHES OF THE RICH AND THE POOR WITHOUT COMMON SIGNATURE, ARE ADDED UP.

- THIS IS A COMPROMISE ON PAPER WHICH OPENS THE DOOR TO ENDLESS DISCUSSIONS. OIL HAS LOST ANY PRIORITY.

- IF ONE COMPARES THE INITIAL FRENCH AIDE-MEMOIRE WHICH WAS TO SERVE AS A STARTING POINT FOR DISCUSSIONS IN THE PREPARATORY CONFERENCE, WITH THE FINAL DECLARATION, ONE SEES NOT ONLY NO PROGRESS, BUT RATHER A STEP BACKWARD.

- THE ANNEX TO THE FINAL DECLARATION WITH ITS "SHOPPING LISTS" SHOWS WHAT ENORMOUS SUBJECTS THE FUTURE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE WILL BE BURDENED WITH.

5. DER BUND ON OCTOBER 17 WAS ALSO SKEPTICAL. IT SAID THAT THE SECOND PREPARATORY CONFERENCE CAN BE CONSIDERED SUCCESSFUL ONLY IN SO FAR AS THE FACT THAT THE DIALOGUE WHICH BROKE DOWN IN APRIL WAS RESUMED.

- BUT NOW WHAT? APPARENTLY THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE WILL NOT DISCUSS JUST THE ENERGY PROBLEM, WHICH HAD BEEN GISCARD D'ESTAING'S IDEA, BUT JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING, A LITTLE OF THIS AND A LITTLE OF THAT.

- AN ENDLESS DIALOGUE AND SERIES OF CONFERENCES STRETCHES BEFORE US. TO SPEAK OF THESE REACHING ANY CONCLUSIONS IS ANOTHER MATTER.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 BERN 04344 201626Z

ODELL

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, PRESS COMMENTS, PLANNING MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BERN04344
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750363-1061
From: BERN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751038/aaaabifh.tel
Line Count: 155
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 OCT 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 OCT 2003 by buchant0>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOCAL PRESS REPORTS AND COMMENTS - PREPCON II
TAGS: ENRG, SZ
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006